

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration of this application as presently amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-16 are pending in the present application.

In response to the Notice to File Missing Parts dated May 10, 2004, a replacement abstract has been submitted. No new matter has been added.

Therefore, the present application is believed to be in condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. And early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Eckhard H. Kuesters  
Attorney of Record  
Registration No. 28,870

Joseph A. Scafetta, Jr.  
Registration No. 26,803

Customer Number  
**22850**

Tel: (703) 413-3000  
Fax: (703) 413 -2220  
(OSMMN 08/03)